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Attorney Docket No. 17509

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Christiaan A.C. Lippons

Serial No. 10/689,772

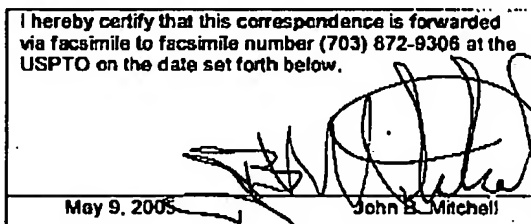
Art Unit: 3611

Filed: October 23, 2003

Examiner: Matthew D. Luby

Title: Ball Hitch for Drawbar

Mail Stop: FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



FIRST AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated December 10, 2004, given in the above-identified application for Letters Patent. Applicant believes that the only fees due on account of this communication are those relating to the Request for Extension of Time; however, should that not be the case, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge necessary fees to the CNH America LLC Deposit Account 14-0780.

Petition for Extension of Time:

Applicant hereby requests an extension of time to reply to the Office Action dated December 10, 2004. The original due date of the reply was March 10, 2005; Applicant is requesting a two month extension to May 10, 2005.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$450.00 fee to the CNH America Deposit Account 14-0780.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.